Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks

1400 South 19th Bozeman, MT 59718

May 18, 2001

To: Governor's Office, Todd O'Hair, Room 204, State Capital, POB 200801, Helena, MT 59620-0801 Environmental Quality Council, Capitol Building, Room 106, POB 201704, Helena, MT 59620 Dept. Environmental Quality, Metcalf Building, POB 200901, Helena, MT 59620-0901 Dept. of Fish, Wildlife & Parks

Director's Office

Legal Unit

Fisheries Division

FWP Commissioners

Wildlife Division

Design & Construction

Lands Section

Dennis Flath

MT Historical Society, State Historic Preservation Office, POB 201202, Helena, MT 59620-1201

MT State Parks Association, POB 699, Billings, MT 59103

MT State Library, 1515 E. Sixth Ave., POB 201800, Helena, MT59620

James Jensen, Montana Environmental Information Center, POB 1184, Helena, MT 59624

Janet Ellis, Montana Audubon Council, POB 595, Helena, MT59624

George Ochenski, POB 689, Helena, MT 59624

Park County Commissioners, 414 E. Callender, Livingston, MT 59047

Jerry DiMarco, POB 1571, Bozeman, MT 59771

Wildlife Federation, POB 1175, Helena, MT 59624

Wayne Hurst, POB 728, Libby, MT 59923

Glen Hockett, 745 Doane Road, Bozeman, MT 59715

Tom Sather, Headwaters Fish & Game Association, POB 1941, Bozeman, MT 59771-1941

Perry Backus, 65 Redtail, Dillon, MT 59725

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Enclosed is a copy of the Decision Notice by FWP to allow the permitting of the Philip Morris Crazy Mountain Ranch Shooting Preserve.

If you have any questions regarding the preserve or the decision, you may contact me at our Bozeman office by calling 994-4042.

Sincerely,

Patrick J. Flowers Regional Supervisor

DECSION NOTICE CRAZY MOUNTAIN RANCH SHOOTING PRESERVE

Prepared by Region 3, Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks May 18, 2001

PROPOSAL

The Philip Morris Crazy Mountain Ranch in Park County has applied to establish a shooting preserve on their property. They would like to release 100 pheasants, and may vary from year to year. The proposed shooting preserve is located approximately 6 miles east of Clyde Park in Park County, MT. The ranch owner, Philip Morris, Inc., has applied for a Privately Owned & Operated Shooting Preserve License and has designated a boundary for a 1,240 acre shooting preserve that would be open to owners and their guests.

MONTANA ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT (MEPA) PROCESS

The proposal has been outlined in an Environmental Assessment (EA) by FWP to satisfy the Montana Environmental Policy Act (MEPA). FWP is required to assess the impacts to the human and natural environment. The EA was available for public comment from March 2, 2001 through March 28, 2001. A public notice was placed in the Livingston Enterprise legal section and on FWP website.

ISSUES RAISED IN THE ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

The checklist EA listed the issues. No major impacts are known to occur if the permit is issued.

GENERAL SUMMARY OF PUBLIC COMMENTS

No comments were received on the proposal.

DECISION

Utilizing the EA and public comment, a decision must be rendered by FWP, which addresses the concerns, and issues identified for this proposed shooting preserve.

Based on the findings of the EA that established no known significant impacts, an EIS is not required and it is my decision to approve the permit for the Philip Morris Crazy Mountain Ranch.

Patrick J. Flowers Regional Supervisor Bozeman, MT 59718